MODIS Technical Team Meeting
Thursday, September 13, 2001
Building 33, Room E125
3:00 PM

Vince Salomonson chaired the meeting. Present were Wayne Esaias, Bill Barnes, Jack Xiong, Steve Kempler, Skip Reber, Eric Vermote, Dorothy Hall, Sol Broder, Robert Wolfe, Michael King, and Barbara Conboy, with Rebecca Lindsey taking the minutes.

1.0 Schedule of Upcoming Events

· MODIS Science Team Meeting POSTPONED
Location: BWI Marriott

The MODIS Science Team has decided to postpone the meeting planned for September 24-26, in light of the possible logistical and emotional difficulties associated with airline travel at this time.

2.0 Meeting Minutes

2.1 Instrument Update
Barnes reported that they have been seeing Command Processor (CP) resets during testing of FM1, but they may be caused by the test set up, and not actual instrument problems. Discussions regarding the FM1 Solar Diffuser Stability Monitor screen suggest that the design for recessing, rotating, and tilting the screen may cause problems with scattered light. He and Xiong had talked with Mark Domen and they all agreed that we should probably forego any changes. The model on PFM corrects oscillations and tracks degradation of the diffuser pretty well. The only problem is the degradation at long wavelengths.

He reminded the group of the PFM resets experienced on A-side initially, which we installed a patch for that basically told it to ignore the resets. Resets have been increasing since July, and we had about 6000 this weekend. Santa Barbara Remote Sensing doesn't seem to know what the problem is or whether we should be concerned. The patch will probably continue to hold off even a high number of resets.

Salomonson indicated that he thought it would be a good idea for MCST to hold a small workshop for interested users (particularly Direct Broadcast users) of MODIS data to hear directly what MCST has done in the way of correcting for various instrument effects such as cross talk, noise, etc. Even though there is a great deal of information on the Web, he thinks that not all users are aware of the progress made by MCST, and may be working to come up with a noise correction schemes, etc., that may not be necessary if they knew in detail what has been accomplished and available. Barnes said they would look into holding such a workshop.

2.2 Data Processing Status

Kempler reported the GES DAAC had finished the March-May 2001 period, including the four days that Atmosphere group needed to make a complete month for March. Wolfe reported that MODAPS is still waiting for those four days, which are somewhere between DAAC and them. Once those are done, they still have to do some daily and multi-day products for April and May. MODAPS is about a week from finishing the three months, and they will meet the September 21 deadline.

Salomonson presented a chart from Wolfe summarizing various proposed strategies for future processing. Among the issues that had to be taken into consideration were the need to be more or less current and the remaining time that the Oceans team needs to refine their Look Up Tables (LUTs) to reflect the switch to A-side. Wolfe reported that MODAPS could lag oceans about 1 month behind by having MODAPS store the input Level 1 data. Oceans will likely be ready sometime around mid-October with their A-side compatible LUTs.

Salomonson indicated that the plan he wants to follow will have the reprocessing streams go back and process November and December of 2000; MODAPS will do this using MTVS2, and the DAAC will use S4PM. Once they are done with that, they will do July-August 2001. The reprocessing stream will do January-February 2001 last. For the forward processing stream, they will start processing the current data, beginning production with data from September 13. This forward processing of "current" data will begin as soon as MODAPS is finished with the March-May 2001 period.

Esaias commented that this approach depends on the instrument remaining stable. Salomonson said we would cross that bridge when we come to it. Esaias said that L2 corrections for mirror sidedness and detector normalizations are OK for A-side, but data is noisier.

Salomonson reminded the group that Michael King sent out a list of products with their status, and he wants everyone to fill in which dates are provisional, beta, etc. for the data series. Everyone should be contacted by the Discipline Leaders regarding this action and are encouraged to respond quickly.

2.3 Oceans Update:
Esaias reported that he heard that the fix for the ordering glitch for L3 oceans in EDG is available.

2.4 Cryosphere Update
Hall reported they are finishing their part of the snow and ice poster for the EOS office, which consists of four MODIS snow cover images, and other MODIS images and other sensor data. They are working on testing algorithm changes, and preparing for advisory group meeting, updating their web site, and revising ATBDs. The PODAG meeting is November 1-2.

2.5 Land Update
Vermote reported that he still has to look at the Itwk/vdet configuration. They haven't decided whether we are going to request to change it. MCST has the test data, but Vermote hasn't analyzed it yet.

2.6 Atmosphere Update
King reported that the group now has a table of data availability on their web page at modis-atmos.gsfc.nasa.gov/products_calendar.html that shows the status of data processing for any given day. These calendars show what data have been processed and what haven't, as well as the number of granules processed for a given day, and whether these were processed using provisional or beta algorithms. In addition, the calendar shows when the instrument was unavailable for some period of time. He also mentioned that a new draft of the MODIS brochure is out, and that he will likely expand the examples of data products illustrated in the atmosphere section.

2.7 MAST Update
***The MODIS Science Team Meeting has been postponed. ***
Conboy reported that the new and improved MODIS web site would be posted that day.

3.0 Action Items

3.1 Discipline leads to meet to resolve the issue of beta-release code and science-quality code, and what we need to say about it.
Status: Open.
3.2 Technical team to discuss further the issue of predicted ephemeris data and how to improve it.
Status: Open.